

1. Introduction

Parks, Recreation, Trails, and Open Space Element

As a part of the natural fabric of the community, parks and open spaces are a source of pride and identity. Parks, recreation facilities, and open spaces contribute to the physical and mental well-being of the community. They provide natural beauty, environmental protection, recreational opportunities and a balanced urban landscape.

The Parks Element provides an inventory of park and recreational facilities throughout the City and establishes policy direction for the continued provision of adequate park and recreation facilities to serve the community's need. This Element is to be used in conjunction with the *Parks, Recreation, Trails and Open Space Plan* (see Volume 2) which addresses parks, open space and recreational facility capital improvement needs in order to secure grant funding for park improvements and/or land acquisition.



Now a mandatory element under the GMA, (see RCW 36.70A.070(8)), the Parks, Recreation, Trails and Open Space Element addresses GMA goals of open space retention and development of recreational opportunities; conservation of fish and wildlife habitat; increased public access to water; and development of parks. The Element provides the GMA required 10 year demand estimates; an evaluation of facilities and service needs; and an evaluation of intergovernmental coordination opportunities.

2. Vision and Values

Issaquah's parks, recreation, trails and open space vision is to continue to provide high quality, safe and accessible recreational facilities

2.1 Vision

Issaquah's parks, recreation, trails and open space vision is to continue to provide high quality, safe and accessible recreational facilities; link areas through greenbelt or greenway connections; and preserve the community's natural resources, such as the creeks and forested hillsides. Each component of Issaquah's park, open space and recreation system is envisioned to perform a variety of functions:

- a. Parks provide places for active recreation, relaxation and serve as community gathering places;
- b. Open spaces, forested hillsides and environmentally sensitive areas provide visual relief and protect the community's ecological resources. The City will serve as the stewards of these resources;
- c. Trails, riparian corridors and greenways/greenbelts link areas of open space and wildlife habitat, and provide connections between residential areas and other parts of the City;
- d. Landscaping and street trees provide linear open space along the City's streets;



- e. Provide recreational programming and classes for sports and activities; and
- f. Provide building maintenance of the City’s owned and managed public buildings and structures.

Generally, Issaquah’s parks goal, policies and objectives are to ensure “no net park loss” with increased population and to provide more neighborhood parks and plazas to be incorporated into new development projects to meet future demand for play areas, tot lots and outdoor gathering places within walking distance of the neighborhoods they serve. The City desires to provide a beautiful city, well kept and maintained, for its citizens and visitors, and provide a variety of passive to active recreational opportunities within its natural open space and parks.

2.2 Values

Issaquah places a high value on its park and recreation system to meet City residents’ desires through development of parks and preservation of natural open spaces. With over 1,566 acres of open space and recreational land located within the City limits, Issaquah has the second highest per capita park acreage in King County (*based on the 2008 King County Benchmarks Report*). Issaquah’s parks and open spaces themselves are highly valued for how much they add to the City’s “quality of life.” The City’s parks and open space areas provide a variety of functions and services, such as serving as gathering places for the community; places of recreation; preservation of ecological functions and wildlife habitat through protection of natural open space; and places of tranquility.

3. Growth Management Act Requirements

The City of Issaquah determined long ago that parks are an integral part of the community and essential to the quality of life for residents. The City included a Parks Element in the Comprehensive Plan before it was required by the Growth Management Act (GMA).

4. Existing Conditions

Issaquah's greater recreation service area encompasses an area of more than 75 square miles, which by and large follows the Issaquah School District boundaries, although the City itself covers approximately 11 square miles. (Figure 11, Park Service Area Map).

Since the Comprehensive Plan Parks Element and the *Parks, Recreation, Trails, and Open Space Plan* (see Volume 2) was approved in 2004, City residents passed the Parks and Open Space Bond in 2006 which allocated \$6.25 million for open space acquisitions and park development.

<u>Park Bond Funding Allocations</u>		
\$3,536,000	Open Space Acquisitions	Completed
\$1,124,000	Sports Field Improvements	In-progress
\$467,000	Neighborhood Park – Talus Development	Completed
\$986,000	Phase 1 – Development of Cybil-Madeline Park (Issaquah Creek confluence park area)	Master Site Plan – initiate fall 2009
\$67,000	Playground Improvements at Veterans’ Memorial Field	Completed
\$70,000	Cost of Issuing/Selling Bonds	Completed
\$6,250,000		Total

The Park Bond funds were matched by various local and state grants for a total of \$3,623,401.00 from:

- ♦ King County Conservation Futures Tax Levy (CFT);
- ♦ King Conservation District (KCD);
- ♦ King County Youth Sports Facilities Grant (YSFG); and,
- ♦ Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) – Urban Wildlife Habitat and Riparian Protection.



Moreover, since 2004, the City added fourteen new park and open space properties including the development of seven new parks. The City also acquired open space properties that increased the size of existing open space areas. A more detailed description of the parks and open space areas is provided in the Park Inventory Tables.

Central Park	50.0 acres
Black Nugget Park	3.0 acres
Grand View Park	8.5 acres
Timberlake Park	24.0 acres
Meerwood Park	1.75 acres
Lewis Creek Natural Area	7.5 acres
Sammamish Cove Park	19.75 acres
Harvey Manning Park at Talus	10 acres
Squak Valley Park	12.5 acres
Ingi Johnson Park	7.75 acres
Berntsen Park	2.0 acres
Park Hill Open Space	13.25 acres
Tollé Anderson Park	4.0 acres
Corra Park	2.5 acres

The City's park, open space and recreation facilities are divided into the following categories: Community Parks/Sports Complex; Community Recreational Facilities, Neighborhood Parks, Parkways and Streetscapes, Natural Open Space, Recreational Trails, and Undeveloped Park Parcels.

Tables PK-1 through PK-5 provide an inventory of current City owned park properties and describes the recreational facilities and opportunities at each of the park sites (see Figure 12, Parks and Recreation Plan and Inventory Map, for locations of all City park facilities). The City's Level of Service (LOS) is reflected in a dollar amount only. To come up with a list of necessary Parks Improvements, the National Level of Service Chart was used (see Volume 2) as background material, then information from the public survey and Parks Board was analyzed to meld with the National standard to meet local needs.

5. Future Park Needs

The City of Issaquah's population is anticipated to increase over the next twenty years. Potential future annexations to the City will also increase the need for more City park, open space and recreational facilities. This demand plus an increase in the need for facilities in areas and cities surrounding Issaquah is expected as well. A map showing the existing and future park and recreation needs is shown

in the Parks and Recreation Plan and Inventory Map (Figure 12).

5.1 Future Year Demand and Needs: Future year demand and needs are addressed in the Capital Facilities Element of the Issaquah Comprehensive Plan, Tables CF-9 through CF-14. These tables summarize expected long term demand, available resources, and anticipated investments based on the adopted Level of Service (LOS) for parks, recreation, and open space. The tables are amended each year.

Additional analysis of future demand and needs to the year 2025 can be found in the *Parks, Recreation, Trails, and Open Space Plan* (see Volume 2). With the 2008-09 downturn in the nation's economy, the importance of the provision of adequate parks and recreational opportunities has become ever more important. As a result of the worsening economy more people are inclined to vacation at home, a "staycation." Residents are using the local parks and recreational facilities to meet their vacation needs. The short and long term goals include a variety of recreational facilities from the development of additional community and neighborhood parks; provision of a new aquatic facility, and continued preservation of natural open space lands to protect wildlife habitat.

5.2 Intergovernmental Cooperation: A number of opportunities for intergovernmental cooperation on parks, recreation and open space exist for the City of Issaquah. Several facilities owned and operated by the Issaquah School District and/or neighboring jurisdictions are either within the City Limits or are within close proximity to Issaquah. These facilities are listed to identify potential partnerships for further evaluation. These facilities are not included in determining concurrency with any adopted level of service standards (LOS).

5.3 Issaquah School District (within Issaquah): The City of Issaquah has an established Interlocal Agreement with the Issaquah School District, which allows the City to provide recreational programs and services at the following District facilities:

5.3.1 Issaquah High School (700 Second Ave. SE): Remodeling of Issaquah High School began in summer 2009 and the remodel is expected to be completed in 2011. With the remodel, the athletic facilities are being reconfigured. It is anticipated that the new school facilities will include the existing synthetic turf field and ¼ mile track; baseball and softball fields; tennis courts; and, indoor gyms with basketball courts and weight room facilities.

5.3.2 Tiger Mountain Community High School (355 SE Evans Lane): Tiger Mountain Community High School provides a covered courtyard and play area in addition to sharing the above listed facilities at Issaquah High School.

5.3.3 Issaquah Middle School (400 First Ave. SE): This school is located just south of the Issaquah Community Center. Athletic facilities include two indoor gyms with basketball courts, gymnastic equipment, and a weight room; six outdoor half court basketball courts; and an outdoor shared-use grass sports field with a ¼ mile track.

5.3.4 Clark Elementary School (500 Second Ave. SE): This school is located to the north of Issaquah High School. The site has an indoor multi-purpose room; a covered outdoor play area; a children's playground with equipment; an outdoor play field that includes a softball field and an all-weather sand field.

5.3.5 Issaquah Valley Elementary (555 NW Holly St.): This school is located adjacent and to the west of the Issaquah School District Administrative offices. The site includes an indoor multi-purpose room, a covered play area; a children's playground with equipment, an outdoor shared-use grass field (includes a softball/little league field with bleachers and two

playgrounds with equipment). Two shared-use sports fields (softball/little league baseball/soccer) are located between the school and school district offices.

5.3.6 Grand Ridge Elementary (1739 NE Park Drive): The school is located in the Issaquah Highlands neighborhood, adjacent to Central Park, and provides a multi-purpose indoor gym with basketball courts and an outdoor sand field that is used primarily for soccer.

5.4 Issaquah School District (outside Issaquah): Additional Issaquah School District properties are located outside Issaquah and offer opportunities for intergovernmental cooperation in the provision of recreational programming and services. (Detailed descriptions are included in the *Issaquah Parks, Recreation, Trails, and Open Space Plan in Volume #2 of the Issaquah Comprehensive Plan*).

5.5 Neighboring Cities: Neighboring cities offer potential opportunities for intergovernmental cooperation for the provision of shared recreational programming. (Detailed descriptions are included in the *Issaquah Parks, Recreation, Trails, and Open Space Plan in Volume 2 of the Issaquah Comprehensive Plan*).





5.6 King County: King County also offers potential opportunities for intergovernmental cooperation for the provision of walking, hiking, mountain biking and equestrian opportunities within Grand Ridge and Cougar Mountain Regional Wildland Parks, and at Taylor Mountain County Forest. The City and County, along with the state agencies have partnered in providing low-impact recreational opportunities within the “Issaquah Alps” (Cougar, Squak, Tiger, Taylor Mountains and Grand Ridge). (Detailed descriptions of these areas and recreational opportunities are included in the *Issaquah Parks, Recreation, Trails, and Open Space Plan in Volume 2 of the Issaquah Comprehensive Plan*).



5.7 Washington State: Washington State managed lands offer potential opportunities for intergovernmental cooperation and for the provision of limited recreational programming at Lake Sammamish State Park and hiking/walking, mountain biking and equestrian opportunities at Squak Mountain State Park and Tiger Mountain State Forest. For example, the City of Issaquah has partnered with the Washington State Department of Natural Resources and the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission to ensure a consistent management approach of public lands located within the "Issaquah Alps" (Cougar, Squak, Tiger, and Taylor Mountains and Grand Ridge). (Detailed descriptions of the state parks and state forest are included in the *Issaquah Parks, Recreation, Trails, and Open Space Plan Volume 2 of the Comprehensive Plan*).

City of Issaquah Parks and Open Space Inventory

PK 1 - Community Parks and Community Recreational Facilities

PARK	LOCATION	ACREAGE	FACILITIES
Tibbetts Valley Park 	965 - 12 th Ave. NW	34 acres	A thirty acre park located at the intersection of the 12 th Avenue and Newport Way – northwest corner. The park contains five sports fields (three softball/little league fields and two baseball fields), basketball court, four tennis courts, children's play equipment, picnic shelter, six picnic tables, concession stand and restroom, interconnecting trails, Tibbetts Creek, wetlands, and parking lots.
Central Park 	1907 Park Dr. NE	50 acres	Central Park includes three park pads which offer various active recreational facilities from a children's playground to athletic sports fields. Pad #1: Baseball/softball fields, children's playground, picnic shelter, restroom, open grass field, and parking. Pad #2: Two little league baseball fields, two tennis courts, restroom and parking. Pad #3: Synthetic turf multiple use athletic field and parking.
Issaquah Community Center (ICC) 	301 Rainier Blvd. S	14.5 acres	The Issaquah Community Center (ICC) includes: an indoor recreational programming facility with a multipurpose area that accommodates a wide range of activities from basketball to trade shows; youth center; weight room area; two multiple use rooms; park offices; a community green that provides a play field and a venue for outdoor concerts; and an outdoor skate park. The ICC is available for rental use.
Julius Boehm Pool 	50 SE Clark St.	ICC acreage	The Julius Boehm Pool is an indoor pool facility that provides lap swimming, swim lessons, swim classes, and swim teams. The pool facility provides space for party rentals.

City of Issaquah Parks and Open Space Inventory

PK 1 - Community Parks and Community Recreational Facilities

<p style="text-align: center;">Tibbetts Creek Manor</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">750 - 17th Ave. NW</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">3 acres</p>	<p>The manor is located on three acres adjacent to Tibbetts Valley Park. The manor consists of a conference center/social events facility with landscaped grounds, Tibbetts Creek, storage/ maintenance barn, administrative offices, and parking lots. The manor is available for rental use.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Pickering Farm</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">1730 – 10th Ave. NW</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">9 acres</p>	<p>The Pickering Farm is situated on nine acres of land within the Pickering Place Development. The farm consists of the Pickering Barn (a facility available for rental), a community teaching garden, a parking lot, a storage facility, undeveloped park space, wetlands/riparian open space, Issaquah Creek, and the Pickering Trail.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Memorial Park Center</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">105 – 2nd Ave. NE</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Veterans' Memorial Field acreage</p>	<p>The Memorial Park Center is located on the east side of Veterans' Memorial Field and provides facilities for community programs including a day-program for pre-school age children.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Issaquah Valley Senior Center</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">75 NE Creekway</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">.75 acres</p>	<p>The Issaquah Valley Senior Center is located on the west side of Veterans' Memorial Field and provides facilities for community programs, services, and activities for senior citizens.</p>

City of Issaquah Parks and Open Space Inventory

PK 1 - Community Parks and Community Recreational Facilities

Depot Park/Rainier Trail



2 E Sunset Way

3.75 acres

Located in the center of Issaquah, west of Veterans' Memorial Field, Depot Park is two acres in size and contains the restored historic train depot, loading platform, landscaped grounds, a picnic area, an informal stage area, and a parking lot.

Issaquah Trails Center







110 SE Bush St.

ICC acreage

The Issaquah Trails Center is located north of the Community Center and provides a conference room for City staff.




City of Issaquah Parks and Open Space Inventory

PK 2 - Neighborhood Parks

PARK	LOCATION	ACREAGE	FACILITIES
Veterans' Memorial Field 	120 E Sunset Way	4.25 acres	This four acre park is located in the heart of downtown Issaquah. The park site includes the Issaquah Valley Senior Center, Memorial Park Center, sports field, children's playground, horseshoe pits, picnic tables, half basketball court, Rainier Multiple Use Trail, and a small parking lot.
Grand View Park 	2306 NE Natalie Way	8.5 acres	On a clear day, the park has a spectacular view of Mt. Baker. A paved walkway, benches, picnic area, children's play lot, restroom, parking and a grass field are provided at this park site.
Black Nugget Park 	1953 – 24 th Ave. NE	3 acres	Black Nugget Park provides two tennis courts, one basketball court, children's play lot, picnic tables, benches and a grass field.
Squak Valley Park 	10319 Issaquah – Hobart Rd.	12.5 acres	Squak Valley Park is located at the south end of town and the 'upper bench area' of the park provides three mod-sized soccer fields, children's play lot, picnic tables, benches, restroom and parking. The 'lower bench area' is part of the Issaquah Creek riparian corridor.

City of Issaquah Parks and Open Space Inventory

PK 2 - Neighborhood Parks

<p>Harvey Manning Park at Talus</p> 	<p>919 Bear Ridge Ct.</p>	<p>10 acres</p>	<p>Harvey Manning Park at Talus is located at the south end of the Talus Development/Neighborhood and provides a children's play lot, picnic tables, benches, walking path, restroom, grass field and a small parking lot.</p>
<p>Meerwood Park</p> 	<p>4703 – 192nd Ave. SE</p>	<p>1.75 acres</p>	<p>This park provides a children's play lot, tennis court that doubles as a basketball court, picnic tables, benches, and grass field.</p>
<p>Gibson Park</p> 	<p>West Sunset Way & Newport Way S</p>	<p>3 acres</p>	<p>Gibson Park includes an open grass play area, children's play lot, picnic shelter and tables, and a meeting hall with kitchen and restroom.</p>
<p>Hillside Park and Cemetery</p> 	<p>555 W Sunset Way & Mt. McKinley Dr. SW</p>	<p>44.75 acres</p>	<p>This forty-four acres park site contains the City cemetery, natural open space, trails and a small sports field off of Mt. McKinley Dr. SW.</p>

City of Issaquah Parks and Open Space Inventory

PK 2 - Neighborhood Parks

Timberlake Park






NW
Sammamish
Road/182nd
Ave. SE

24 acres

This park site is predominantly forested and provides a small parking area, ½ mile trail down to Lake Sammamish, picnic tables, benches, small grass field, and beach access and scenic view of the lake.

City of Issaquah Parks and Open Space Inventory

PK 3 - Natural Open Space

PARK	LOCATION	ACREAGE	FACILITIES
Tradition Plateau Natural Resources Conservation Area (NRCA) 	SE 79 th St. – High Point	425 acres	The NRCA is located on Tiger Mountain to the east of downtown Issaquah. It contains 445 acres, which have been designated by the City and the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) as a "Natural Resource Conservation Area." Total acreage of the combined WDNR and City ownership in the NCRA is approximately 4,400 acres. The NCRA offers recreational hiking trails, viewpoints of Lake Tradition and Round Lake, open space and natural wilderness habitat.
Talus Native Growth Protection Area NGPA (Cougar-Squak Mtns. Wildlife Corridor) 	SR 900/Renton-Issaquah Road SE & Mountainside Dr.	421 acres	As part of the Talus Development, 385 acres of open space land were dedicated to the City as a Native Growth Protection Area. Another 40 acres was added to the open space area when the City acquired the Issaquah 69 property. The open space area covers the area south of the West Fork of Tibbetts Creek on Cougar Mountain and the west slope of Squak Mountain (east and south of Mountainside Drive). Significant trail connections exist on the property to Squak Mountain State Park via the Bullitt Fireplace Trail and to King County Cougar Mountain Regional Wildland Park via the Bear Ridge Trail.
Squak Valley Park – North 	Issaquah-Hobart Rd.	11 acres	Located at the south end of the City along Issaquah-Hobart Road, the park includes approximately 11 acres of open fields along Issaquah Creek. Proposed plans for the parcel include natural restoration of the park including channel improvements for fish habitat plus a trail and wildlife viewing areas.




City of Issaquah Parks and Open Space Inventory

PK 3 - Natural Open Space

South Issaquah Creek Greenway 	SE Sycamore Creek Lane	10.25 acres	Located in the Sycamore neighborhood at the south end of town, the Greenway encompasses approximately 10.4 acres of creekside and wetland open space area. Stewardship/riparian enhancement projects have occurred on the site
PARK	LOCATION	ACREAGE	FACILITIES
Foothills at Issaquah Open Space 	Issaquah Creek/Sunrise Place	62.75 acres	The Foothills at Issaquah Open Space extends and forms a wildlife corridor from the South Issaquah Creek Greenway up to Squak Mountain State Park. The Squak Mountain Access Trail traverses the open space area and provides hiker access to the King County and State Park lands.
Ingi Johnson Park 	Front St. S	7.75 acres	Located on the main stem of Issaquah Creek at the Issaquah Fish Hatchery dam site. The park is slated for wildlife enhancement and riparian corridor restoration.
Berntsen Park 	810 – 4 th Ave. NW	2 acres	The park is located on the main stem of Issaquah Creek and is slated for wildlife enhancement and riparian corridor restoration.



City of Issaquah Parks and Open Space Inventory

PK 3 - Natural Open Space

<p>Emily Darst Park</p> 	<p>Main stem Issaquah Creek, north of I-90 and south of the Pickering Farm</p>	<p>11.75 acres</p>	<p>Located on the east bank of Issaquah Creek, the park contains twelve acres of wetlands and open space habitat areas. The park is traversed at its south end by the Pickering Multiple Use Trail, which connects to the King County East Lake Sammamish Regional Trail.</p>
<p>Issaquah Creek WaterWays- Open Space Areas within Neighborhoods</p> 	<p>Various upland/forested locations and along Issaquah Creek</p>	<p>56 acres</p>	<p>Through either property acquisitions or setting aside property to offset developmental impacts or to protect critical areas, open space and wildlife habitat lands have been conserved along the length of the creek and in upland forested areas.</p>
<p>Sammamish Cove Park</p> 	<p>NW Sammamish Rd</p>	<p>19.75 acres</p>	<p>This land was purchased as open space / wildlife habitat on the shores of Lake Sammamish. Tibbetts Creek traverses the northwest portion of the site. No lake access is available from the site.</p>
<p>Issaquah Highlands Open Space <i>(no photo)</i></p>	<p>Various locations – Issaquah Highlands Neighborhoods</p>	<p>270 acres</p>	<p>The Issaquah Highlands open space consists of approx. 270 acres located through-out the Issaquah Highlands Development.</p>




City of Issaquah Parks and Open Space Inventory

PK 3 - Natural Open Space

<p>Park Hill Open Space</p> 	<p>SE 56th St.</p>	<p>13.25 acres</p>	<p>This open space area is generally a mixed coniferous-deciduous forest that provides wildlife habitat and ‘green space’ between the neighborhoods located within the Overlake area</p>
<p>Lewis Creek Natural Area</p> 	<p>Newport Way</p>	<p>7.5 acres</p>	<p>This open space area is a mixed deciduous-coniferous forested area.</p>






City of Issaquah Parks and Open Space Inventory

PK 4 - Parkways and Trails

PARK	LOCATION	ACREAGE	FACILITIES
Gilman Blvd. Parkway 	Gilman Blvd.	N/A	Gilman Blvd. Parkway has extensive plantings and trees including edible fruit, picnic tables, benches, grassy open spaces and a viewing platform/bridge of Issaquah Creek.
Rainier Blvd. Parkway 	Rainier Blvd.	N/A	This parkway and multiple use trail links the Issaquah Community Center, City Hall, Veteran's Memorial Field, Issaquah Depot, Centennial Parks
Centennial Park/Rainier Trail 	Front St. N & Rainier Ave. N	3 acres	Centennial Park includes ½ acre of landscaped grounds and lawn with public art displayed.

City of Issaquah Parks and Open Space Inventory

PK 4 - Parkways and Trails

<p style="text-align: center;">Cornick Park</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">Front St. S & Newport Way</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">.25 acre</p>	<p>Cornick Park contains ¼ acre of landscaped grounds.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Walen Hill Park</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">Newport Way & W Sunset Way</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">.25 acre</p>	<p>Walen Hill Park has an acre of open lawn, picnic area and viewpoint overlooking the city.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Mine Hill Park</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">200 Wildwood Blvd. SW</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">3.5 acres</p>	<p>Mine Hill Park includes five acres of natural area, Issaquah Creek viewing platform and trail.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Urban and Forest Trails</p>  	<p style="text-align: center;">Multiple locations – described in parks that trails connect and/or bisect</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Multiple locations</p>	<p>The Urban Trails Plan/Non-motorized Transportation Plan and the Issaquah Area Wildlife and Recreation Trails Plan are intended to be integrated into the planning of parks, recreation and open space. The Non-motorized Transportation Plan promotes pedestrian and bicycle trails as a key component of the transportation network throughout the city. The Trails Plan promotes forest trails throughout the open space and recreation areas of the greater Issaquah area also known as the "Issaquah Alps" (Cougar, Squak, Tiger Mountains and Grand Ridge). Coordination of both plans with the park system will enable the City to provide a pedestrian and bicycle friendly atmosphere for access to the City's parks and open spaces.</p>

City of Issaquah Parks and Open Space Inventory

PK 5 - Undeveloped Parks

PARK	LOCATION	ACREAGE	FACILITIES
Cybil-Madeline Park 	Issaquah Creek at NW Holly St. and Rainier Blvd. N	4.5 acres	This site is located on the east bank of Issaquah Creek across from the Issaquah School District Administrative offices and adjacent to Tollë Anderson Park. Stewardship (riparian habitat enhancement) projects have occurred along the creek.
Tollë Anderson Park 	595 Rainier Blvd. N	4 acres	The park site is located at the confluence of the east fork and main stem of Issaquah Creek and is located adjacent to Cybil-Madeline Park.
Issaquah Creek Park 	Issaquah Creek at NW Third Ct.	3.5 acres	This site is located to the south and across the creek from Cybil-Madeline Park (southeast of the Issaquah School District Administrative offices), with vehicular access from Third Court NW. The site contains approximately 4.5 acres and has been the site of a riparian and in-stream habitat restoration project.
Corra Park <i>(no photo)</i>	Third and Dogwood Streets	2.5 acres	This park site was acquired as a future neighborhood park site.

The City of Issaquah and Issaquah School District have entered into an “Interlocal Agreement Regarding the Joint Use, Development and Maintenance of City and District Properties” (See Volume 2, Chapter 5, Appendix E), which is a cooperative effort for the planning, development, operation, and maintenance of school district and city recreational facilities. The City of Issaquah Parks and Recreation Department primarily utilizes the school facilities for recreational programs and services. For the schools located in the primary parks and recreation service area, the City of Issaquah Parks and Recreation Dept. has first claim for the use of those schools.

City of Issaquah Parks and Open Space Inventory

Schools		
SCHOOL	LOCATION	FACILITIES
Issaquah High School	700 Second Ave. SE	Issaquah High School is currently being remodeled and the athletic facilities are being reconfigured. It is anticipated that the new school facilities will include the existing synthetic turf field and ¼ mile track; baseball and softball fields; tennis courts; and, indoor gyms with basketball courts and weight room facilities.
Tiger Mountain Community High School	355 SE Evans Lane	This high school shares athletic facilities with Issaquah High School but also has an outdoor court/patio area for recreational activities.
Issaquah Middle School	400 First Ave. SE	Athletic facilities at the middle school includes two indoor gyms with basketball courts, gymnastic equipment, and a weight room; six outdoor half court basketball courts; and, an outdoor shared-use grass sports field that includes a ¼ mile track
Clark Elementary School	500 Second Ave. SE	The school includes an indoor multi-purpose room; a covered outdoor play area; a children's playground with equipment; an outdoor play field that includes a softball field and an all-weather sand field.
Issaquah Valley Elementary School	555 NW Holly Street	The school includes an in-door multi-purpose room; a covered outdoor play area; an outdoor-shared use grass field that includes a softball/little league field with bleachers; and, two children's playgrounds with equipment. Two shared-use sports fields (softball/little league/soccer) are located between the elementary school and the school district offices.
Grand Ridge Elementary	1739 NE Park Drive	The school provides an indoor multi-purpose gym with basketball courts and an outdoor sand field that is used primarily for soccer.

6. Goal, Objectives and Policies

Issaquah's parks, recreation, trails and open space vision is to continue to provide high quality, safe and accessible recreational facilities; link areas through greenbelt or greenway connections; and preserve the community's natural resources, such as the creeks and forested hillsides.

GOAL: Foster and support the stewardship of historic, cultural and natural resources through our community, in the form of a parks, recreation and open space system, that serves the needs of the residents of the City of Issaquah and the surrounding area.

Balanced Needs

OBJECTIVE P-1: The City's adopted *Parks, Recreation, Trails, and Open Space Plan* shall be used to ensure that development of parks is balanced with environmental protection. The City shall promote and protect environmental quality, open space and wildlife habitat, and multi-use recreational opportunities.

Balanced Needs Policies:

P-1.1 Access and Education: Provide access to and education about Issaquah's natural environment and cultural heritage through the park system.

P-1.2 Natural Integrity and Heritage: Preserve and protect the natural integrity of the environment as well as resources and artifacts of historical and cultural significance to reinforce the City's cultural, historical and agricultural heritage within the park system.

P-1.3 Wildlife Corridors: Maintain wildlife corridors to provide adequate linkage for wildlife movement between and about wildlife habitat areas.



P-1.4 Recreation and Habitat: When providing recreational facilities, ensure that these facilities are consistent with and do not adversely affect the preservation and protection of wildlife habitat areas.

Natural Resource Management

OBJECTIVE P-2: Preserve and protect the City's natural resources through the provision of resource management strategies and programs.

Natural Resource Management Policies:

P-2.1 Natural Resources: Preserve and protect natural resources through open space and wildlife management and other environmental programs for the benefit of future generations.

P-2.2 Forest Management: Protect forest lands through sustainable forest management strategies for the benefit of future generations.

P-2.3 Native Biological Diversity: Implement management strategies, as developed in the Issaquah Natural Area Open Space Management Plan, to maintain sustainable wildlife population levels and encourage native biological diversity.



P-2.4 Stewardship: Promote stewardship projects located within and along the Issaquah and Tibbetts Creeks, including their tributaries, corridors and upland natural open space areas.

P-2.5 Native Vegetation: Within the City's designated open space natural areas, including Native Growth Protection Areas, restoration, enhancement, and stewardship projects shall use vegetative species native to the State of Washington and as appropriate for the project site plant community.

P-2.6 Native and Drought Tolerant Vegetation: Within the City's parks and streetscapes, native and drought tolerant species shall be emphasized and used as appropriate for the project site.

Visual Environment

OBJECTIVE P-3: Preserve and enhance the beauty of the City of Issaquah through the parks and open spaces that make up the City's park system.

Visual Environment Policies:

P-3.1 Visual Relief and Tranquility: Bring visual relief and tranquility to mitigate the impacts of the urban environment, including noise, traffic, concrete, and congestion, through the use of maintained parkways including street trees, gardens, lawns, woods, and water through the park system.

P-3.2 Natural Beauty of Area: Promote retention and replication of the area's natural beauty and ecology (mountains, plantings, water etc.) in the park system.

P-3.3 Preserve Gilman Blvd. Landscaping: Protect Gilman Boulevard's signature landscaping, trees, plantings, grassy open spaces, trails and creek access from new development and improvements by ensuring no net loss of landscaping.

P-3.4 Scenic Visual Resources: Preserve the quality of surrounding scenic and visual resources provided by the natural open space areas, such as the "Issaquah Alps."



Future Generations

OBJECTIVE P-4: Ensure Issaquah's park system has a strong orientation toward providing parks, recreation and open space facilities, and recreational opportunities for future generations.

Future Generations Policies:

P-4.1 Planning for Future Generations: Acquire and preserve land for coming generations, and develop parks to meet both existing and future demand including multi-use recreational facilities and activities, and open space preservation.

P-4.2 Planning for Future Growth: Plan the park system using future growth estimates and expected growth patterns.

4.2.1 PAAs and Subareas: Consider and designate, when possible, locations for City owned parks when annexing property or preparing subarea plans.

Accessibility

OBJECTIVE P-5: Make the City of Issaquah's park system and programs easily accessible for as many recreational users as possible.

Accessibility Policies:

P-5.1 Active and Passive Park Facilities: Make both active and passive park facilities available to as many persons as possible. Where appropriate, provide multi-use active recreational opportunities at park facilities consistent with the intended use of the particular park facilities.

P-5.2 User Groups with Special Considerations: Give special consideration to people with limited financial resources, youth at risk, the elderly, the disabled and others with special needs.

Service and Management

OBJECTIVE P-6: Ensure Issaquah's park facilities are safe and well managed while providing all segments of the community with quality park and recreational facilities and services.

Service and Management Policies:



P-6.1 Services for a Variety of Persons: Provide natural open space, multiple-use parks, and recreational opportunities and services to a variety of age groups, interests, and abilities throughout the park system.

P-6.2 Park Programs: Offer a wide variety of recreational programs, services and classes to meet the community's diverse needs. The programs, services and classes should be characterized by quality, caring and efficiency.

P-6.3 Safety: Promote the opportunity for use and minimize user and neighborhood conflict, through the provision of safe and well-managed park facilities, including open space and active recreation facilities. Anticipate the security and safety concerns of users, and design parks and parks recreational programs with these concerns in mind. Strategies to alleviate potential security and safety concerns include: requesting police patrols, posting signage with regulations for behavior and appropriate times and ways to use parklands and park facilities, regular maintenance, outdoor lighting and appropriate landscaping.

P-6.4 Citizen Involvement: Utilize citizen involvement and participation in planning, developing, operating, stewarding and maintaining the City of Issaquah's park system. A variety of citizens and recreational users should be included in the review of strategies and implementation of park planning projects. City



sanctioned volunteer activities are encouraged when feasible for maintenance and stewardship of the City's parks and open spaces.

P-6.5 Trails: Use the *Urban Trails Plan* and the 1992 *Issaquah Area Wildlife and Recreation Trails Plan* as background and guidelines for future planning for trails and supplemental facilities within the City's parks, recreation and open space areas. Place emphasis on connecting trails to existing local, regional, and state trail systems as shown in the Recreational Trail and Non-Motorized Transportation Corridor Map (Volume 2 Map 8-1).

P-6.6 Integrated Pest Management and Plant Health Care: Design, develop and manage park facilities utilizing plant health care and Integrated Pest Management approaches and strategies. For example, these approaches include matching appropriate plants to their respective sites, emphasize proper site preparation to ensure plant establishment, promote long term success with a minimum of artificial inputs, conserve water, reduce use of chemical pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers and protect water quality, endangered species and public health, while also considering public safety, economic, legal and/or aesthetic requirements. Implementation for these approaches and strategies shall be included in a Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) or Maintenance and Operation Manual.

P-6.7 Facility Management: Design, develop, construct, maintain and operate facilities when feasible in a resource efficient and sustainable manner, which minimizes impacts to and improves the quality of the environment, community and economy.

Acquisition and Development

OBJECTIVE P-7: Acquire land for future parks, trails and trail connections and natural open space when such lands are available and affordable, to meet present and future community and user demands and needs.

Acquisition and Development Policies:

P-7.1 Park Land Acquisition: Acquire suitable land when available, but development of park and recreational facilities must not exceed funding or the ability to maintain or to operate facilities.

P-7.2 Inventory and Identification: Inventory existing developed and undeveloped parks and determine appropriate recreational uses and facilities at these sites.

P-7.3 Minimum Facilities: Provide minimum access, such as trails, where full development is not appropriate or possible.

P-7.4 Acquisition Priority: Priority should be placed on acquiring land adjacent to existing parkland to augment the potential uses of those facilities and to improve linkages between parks.



P-7.5 Neighborhood Needs: When feasible, priority should be given to acquiring and developing sites that provide recreational facilities within neighborhoods in the City. These areas should be easily accessible, visible, and efficient to maintain and operate. Neighborhood parks are desirable within ¼ to ½ mile of each residence. Neighborhood parks typically feature about three to five acres and include children's play structures, restrooms, grass play or sports field, picnic tables and benches, and small parking area.

P-7.6 Acquisition of Wildlife Habitat Areas: When feasible, priority should be given to the identification, acquisition and preservation of natural open space areas and, wildlife corridors in order to allow wildlife (both aquatic and terrestrial) migration from place to place, and to avoid isolation of habitat areas. Acquisition sites should promote wildlife habitat connectivity.

Partnerships

OBJECTIVE P-8: Continue, or create where beneficial to the public, partnerships with local, state, federal and regional agencies. Partner with the Issaquah School District, businesses, developers, non-profit organizations, user groups and neighborhood groups in order to provide and to assist in the management and maintenance of parks, open space, recreation facilities, services and security.

Partnerships Policies:

P-8.1 Partnerships with Developers: Developers shall mitigate or offset the impacts of their new development by providing parkland and park facilities, and/or payment of impact fees in lieu of such land or facilities, through the process established by the City. Additional on-site design requirements are also appropriate for larger subdivisions and multifamily developments. In the commercial areas of the City, developers shall mitigate by providing public spaces and facilities such as plazas, courtyards, and pedestrian connections on-site through Land Use Code development requirements and/or incentives. Area wide improvement districts are also supported to address the needs for commercial area park facilities.

P-8.2 Neighborhood and Business Partnerships: Encourage partnerships with neighborhoods and existing businesses to provide land or facilities for parks including, but not limited to: cost sharing for acquisition and development, furnishing materials or equipment, or providing maintenance or security. Promote partnerships with non-profit and service organizations. These groups provide increased expertise, interest, volunteers, and/or funding for a particular facility or program provided by the Parks and Recreation Department.

Regional Coordination

OBJECTIVE P-9: Participate in coordination, in cooperation and in partnership with local, state, and federal agencies on a regional basis in order to provide an effective and efficient regional natural open space and park system, thus providing improved recreational opportunities, services, and facilities for people living in the greater Issaquah area. Key agencies include the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife, Washington State Department of Natural Resources, Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission, King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks, and the United States Forest Service.

Regional Coordination Policies:

P-9.1 Cooperative Planning Efforts: Participate in the cooperative regional planning efforts among agencies and jurisdictions in order to provide recreational opportunities and facilities on inter-jurisdictional public lands. The City shall also work together with these jurisdictions and organizations to identify jurisdictional roles and responsibilities in contributing to regional needs, and identify, establish, protect and steward urban and rural open space corridors of regional significance.



P-9.2 Specific Partnerships: Due to the local benefit of regional public open space lands, the City should continue its coordination and participation in the "Issaquah Alps" and Upper Snoqualmie Valley Interagency Committee, the Mountains-to-Sound Greenway Trust, Issaquah Alps Trail Club, Save Lake Sammamish and other non-profit groups.